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*Pride  
2017*



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**BEST WAY TO GET SERVED MORE QUICKLY AT THE BAR:**

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**BIGGEST PET PEEVE:** When someone tries to come behind the bar to try to get a drink.

**BEST HANGOVER CURE:** Pickle Juice

**IF YOU WEREN'T A BARTENDER, WHAT WOULD YOU BE:**

A flight attendant

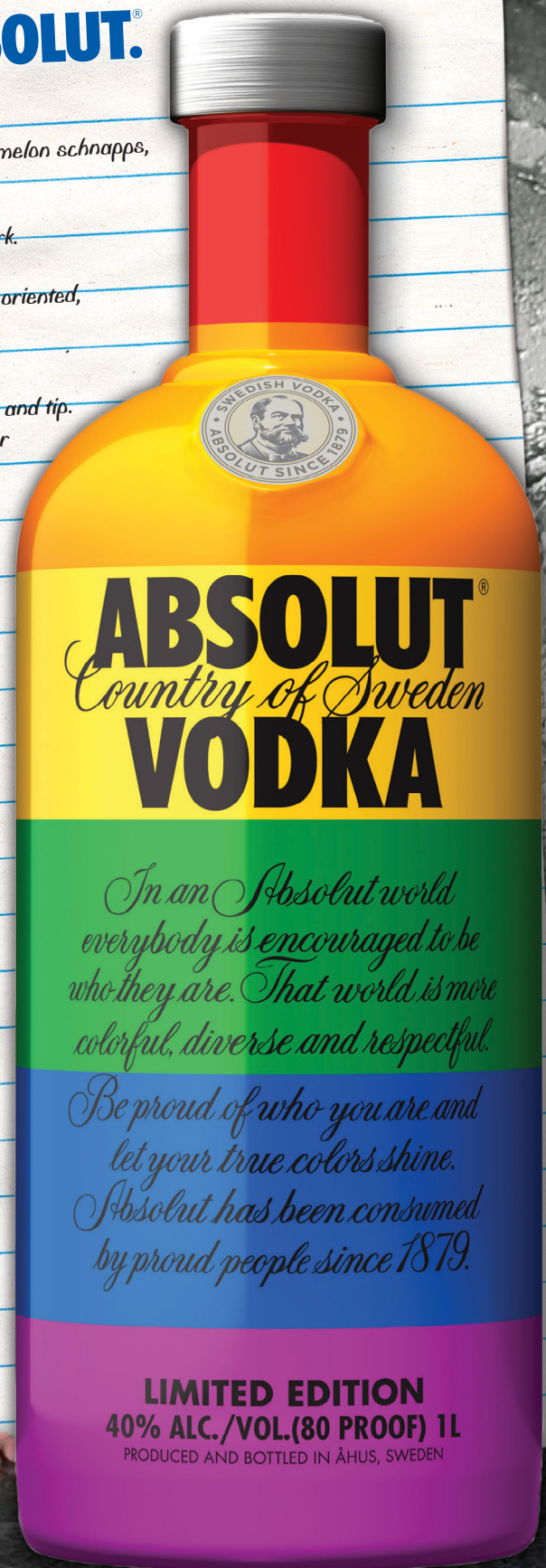
**WHAT IS YOUR ESTABLISHMENT KNOWN FOR:**

Drag, happy hour, and bottomless mimosas.

**WHAT'S THE STRANGEST DRINK REQUEST THAT YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED?:** Vodka, gin, tonic, soda, and sprite.

**BARTENDER  
OF THE WEEK**

**Kole**

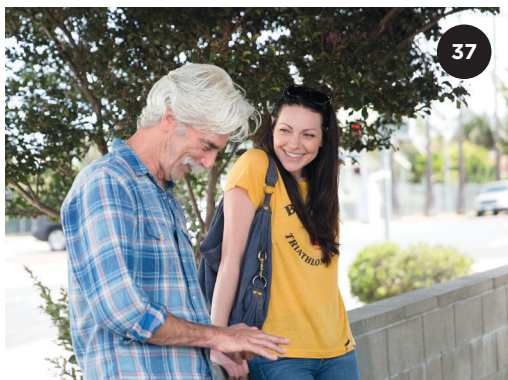


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By Cory Zurowski

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**cover credit**  
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Galen Fletcher

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## THE SHORTLIST

At the Drive-In  
thunderously rock  
the Palace Theatre  
[citypages.com/slideshows](http://citypages.com/slideshows)



TONY NELSON

## THE STAT SHEET

**\$36**

What the average American  
spends annually to support  
the food stamp program,  
according to the U.S. government

**68**

Percentage of rural Americans who  
say the values of city dwellers are  
different from theirs, according to  
a Washington Post poll

**\$870**

What the average American  
pays each year for corporate welfare,  
according to the libertarian-leaning  
Cato Institute

**42**

Percentage of rural Americans who  
say immigrants are a burden on  
the country, compared to just  
16 percent of urban residents

**“Because ground-mattress is lady-signal  
for ‘man-child?’”**

Reader Jason Hollis responds to  
“Dear Men: Get your damn mattress  
off the floor,” at [citypages.com](http://citypages.com).

## THE MORAL LOW GROUND

**AS EVIDENCE OF** the left’s increasing propensity to become as hostile as the right, we take you now to the Philando Castile protest Friday night in St. Paul.

One Star Tribune photographer was accosted by a group of men, saved only by a female protester who intervened. Another man threatened to smash a Strib photographer’s camera. The tone was set by organizers, who demanded the media “back the fuck off” from the start, and speak to no one but them.

At certain moments, the affair might well have been a Trump rally in Georgia, only with more varied pigmentation. This is what the moral high ground looks like in 2017.

## POPULAR STORIES AT CITYPAGES.COM

**CASTILE VERDICT:** Covering a wounded St. Paul turns into a long night in jail

In south Minneapolis,  
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begin August 2017 and  
never, ever end

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the villain (and pays the bills)

Minneapolis will pay you  
to build a house  
on **THE NORTH SIDE**



# MINTY NO MORE

Minneapolis council members move to ban menthols

Minneapolis City Council members Lisa Bender and Cam Gordon want to ban the sale of minty tobacco products. It's an expansion of rules adopted two years ago that restricted the sale of all flavored tobacco — which advocates say are packaged to look like candy in order to appeal to youth — to adult specialty shops only.

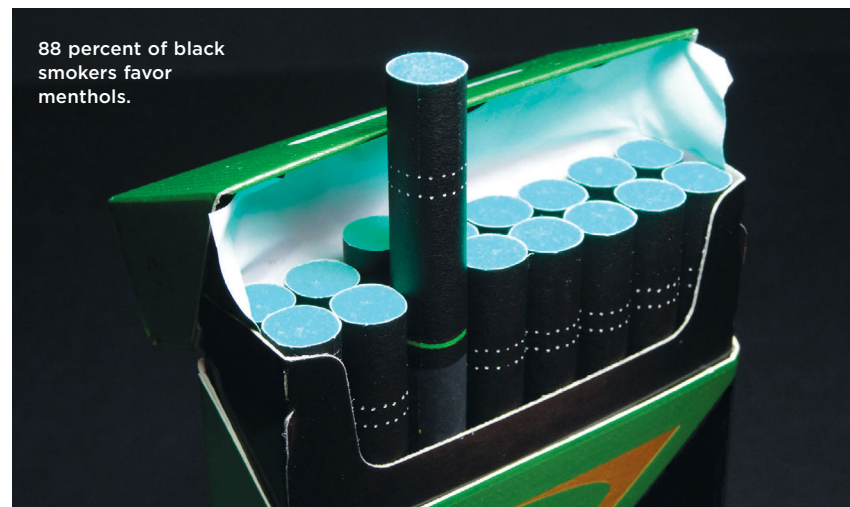
Newport is America's favorite menthol brand, and the second most popular cigarette overall, claims its producer, R.J. Reynolds. According to the Centers for Disease Control, menthol is the style of choice for 88.5 percent of African American smokers.

"One thing we learned from paying attention to what the industry does and from advocates is there's a real disparity in terms of menthol cigarette use, and that disparity tends to have everything to do with the industry really targeting certain populations with advertising and marketing," says Robin Garwood, Gordon's aide.

R.J. Reynolds has opposed menthol bans in the past by framing them as a matter of civil rights. In January, the company sponsored a community meeting at the Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Minneapolis, headlined by civil rights advocate and spokesman-for-hire Al Sharpton. It was called "Decriminalizing the Black Community," with a focus on the banning of menthol cigarettes. Sharpton had been asked to host similar meetings in four different cities.

LaTrisha Vetaw, policy manager for the North Point Health and Wellness Center in Minneapolis, where most patients are African American, says she attended that meeting to prevent the hosts from spreading misinformation.

"[Sharpton] was more of a prop to get people out," she says. "They used the numbers of African Americans who use menthol as the lure. They were saying if menthol were banned, police were going



88 percent of black smokers favor menthols.

BAKERYLY

to be attacking black men, if they had a cigarette police would be attacking them.... They use some crazy scare tactics all the time for these things."

Vetaw believes race will definitely be used again as the Minneapolis ordinance nears passage. She fully expects that convenience store chains and small businesses will gripe about losing millions in sales.

These things were all said before, when the city was trying to restrict flavored

tobacco, she says, and there was no economic Armageddon.

Garwood is very clear: The proposed ordinance will have no criminalizing effect on smokers of menthol cigarettes because it would only regulate sellers. Police will not be pulling people over, checking to see what brands they're smoking.

The city has yet to release a draft of the ordinance, but a public meeting is planned for July 24. —SUSAN DU

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# The Hater's Guide

To Minnesota's Fortune 500 companies

## THE GOOD

**Target** (Rank No. 38, \$69.5 billion in revenue): Since ousting CEO Gregg Steinhafer (an opponent of gay rights), Target affirmed that transgender customers would be allowed in the bathroom of their choice, sending knuckle-draggers in search of stores more open-minded toward bigotry.

**Supervalu** (No. 158, \$17.5 billion): The money traders behind Cub and Rainbow have tense relations with their unions. But at least they *have* unions, unlike a lot of too-cool co-ops or the invading Hy-Vees.

**Ecolab** (No. 211, \$13.1 billion): A behemoth trafficking in the international chemical market sounds like a scandal waiting to happen. We're still waiting. Yet the proud "nerds" at Ecolab like keeping things clean.

**C.H. Robinson** (No. 212, \$13.1 billion): This global shipping and logistics company quietly moves tons of products from points A to points B, tangibly improving consumers' lives. Way more than can be said for others on this list.

**Thrivent Financial** (No. 316, \$8.7 billion): A nonprofit money manager where the CEO makes pennies compared to other financial executives? It's a miracle. Where Jesus would've banked, if he was into money.

## THE BAD

**CHS** (No. 93, \$30.3 billion): In 2014, the feds sued to stop a joint venture between ConAgra, Cargill, Horizon, and CHS, the biggest farmer-rancher cooperative in America, alleging that it would have smothered competition in the wheat market from Los Angeles to Minneapolis. Picture your wheat farmer wearing that Monopoly guy's top hat.

**US Bancorp** (No. 125, \$22.7 billion): In 2014, US Bank repaid \$48 million after billing customers for credit and identity protection "services" they didn't sign up for, and in many cases didn't receive.

**Land O' Lakes** (No. 209, \$13.2 billion): Last year, a consortium of farmer-owned dairy co-ops—including Land O'Lakes—settled a price-fixing lawsuit for \$52 million. Their business plan: driving down supply by killing some 500,000 dairy cows.

**Ameriprise Financial** (No. 239, \$11.7 billion): If you judge a business by how it treats employees, be wary of Ameriprise. In 2011, employees sued their own firm for shoddy handling of company 401(k)s, accusing Ameriprise of using its plans to buy crappy, overpriced stocks that Ameriprise held in its own portfolio. The company settled for \$27.5 million.

**Xcel Energy** (No. 256, \$11.1 billion): Xcel and its platoon of lobbyists always seem to get their way. In May, the state approved a \$244 million rate hike that runs through 2020. That's around the time Xcel will come back for more, making everyone pay for its new natural gas plant, which the legislature approved this year, cutting out state agency oversight. Oh, to be a "regulated" monopoly.

**St. Jude Medical Inc.** (No. 434, \$6 billion): This'll be the last year Minnesota can claim St. Jude, which has been acquired by Illinois' Abbot Laboratories. Good riddance. St. Jude made life-saving products (defibrillators and pacemakers), but also spent millions lobbying for repeal of the medical device tax, and bought up politicians like GOP Rep. Erik Paulsen until at last, and at your expense, it got its way.

**Patterson Companies** (No. 466, \$5.5 billion): Last year, Texas database security expert Justin Shafer found an unprotected cache containing 22,000 patients' dental records, names and all. He tried telling Patterson, parent company of the software firm with a gaping hole in its files. In a masterfully underhanded ass-covering move, Patterson turned Shafer in to the FBI, which raided his home. No charges were filed.

## THE UGLY

**UnitedHealth** (No. 6, \$184.8 billion): In May, the Department of Justice sued the insurance giant, alleging it had fudged records of Medicare patients to make them look sicker, and thus charge more. The move rerouted hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars into the pockets of executives and shareholders.

**Best Buy** (No. 72, \$39.4 billion): Busted gadgets from Best Buys across the country are flown to a huge facility in Kentucky, where techs are accused of cutting side deals with the FBI. According to a recent lawsuit, the feds asked the geeks to fish through people's files, which they happily did for as little as \$500 or \$1,000. Next time your laptop fails, consider a hammer.

**3M** (No. 94, \$30.9 billion): Rid your mind of the image of quirky geeks inventing Scotch tape and the Post-it Note. 3M has been sued for contaminating water with potentially cancer-causing chemicals in New York, Alabama, and Minnesota. State Attorney General Lori Swanson has already spent seven years in court, accusing 3M of exposing upward of 125,000 Twin Cities residents to these chemicals long after the company knew the risks.



Mike Mullen

**General Mills** (No. 165, \$16.5 billion): In 2014, the corporation snuck language onto its website that said anyone who downloaded coupons, joined a sweepstakes, or even "liked" a company Facebook page was waiving their right to sue the company. The company backed off, saying it had been "misunderstood," and was only seeking a "cost-effective means of resolving disputes."

**Hormel** (No. 295, \$9.5 billion): Hormel's having trouble keeping up in the Asian market because many of its suppliers give piglets a growth-inducing drug banned in China. (China!) Hormel's environmental record is also shitty, literally: It's among the pork producers exploiting lax regulations in Iowa, where hog manure fertilizer is allowed to run off farmland and right into people's drinking water.

**Mosaic Company** (No. 377, \$7.1 billion): Mosaic mines for potash and phosphate, crop fertilizers that can contaminate surrounding air and water. Sometimes they cut out the middleman: In Florida, Mosaic has run afoul of EPA standards for air pollution (in 2013) and water pollution (2015). It has also agreed to spend \$2 billion and clean up 60 billion pounds of hazardous waste. ☒

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Martha Graham Cracker Photo courtesy the artist



# Rainbow Picket Fence



## FINDING GAY SUBURBIA HEAVEN IN GOLDEN VALLEY

BY CORY ZUROWSKI

**T**his love story begins in the basement of a St. Paul church.

Larry Fonnest, a Thief River Falls native, was single and lived with his dog in a house in Como Park. Jim Nepp, who hailed from Austin, Minnesota, and lived in a northeast Minneapolis townhouse, was also a bachelor. Each considered himself somewhat bashful. Neither was the type to go out of his way to make conversation or seek connection with a stranger.

On a Tuesday night, the two volunteers were seated across from one another, stuffing envelopes for the “It’s Time Minnesota” campaign. Over the course of the evening, preparing literature that implored Minnesotans to vote down a measure repealing rights for LGBTQ public employees, Fonnest and Nepp struck up a conversation.

That night began a courtship that lasted for five years before the two decided to move in together. But where? Fonnest worked in St. Paul. Nepp worked in Minneapolis. They would try to split the difference, looking in St. Anthony, Roseville, and Highland Park. About 100 houses and no sale later, Golden Valley appeared on the radar.

Fonnest had read an article trumpeting the western suburb’s proximity to downtown Minneapolis and its

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low taxes. The couple's curiosity was further stoked when they went to dinner at a gay couple's home there. The fairway-like lawns and open floor plans felt like freedom.

Fonnest and Nepp soon found a place of their own in Golden Valley's Dawnview Acres neighborhood. Twenty-one years later, Nepp hasn't forgotten one particular moment at the closing table in 1996.

"They must have known by this point we were a gay couple, and [the seller] turned to me and said, 'You're going to be welcomed here,'" Nepp says. "There was some trepidation about moving out to the suburbs. He was sending a message."

Shortly after moving in, Fonnest and Nepp learned that another gay couple lived a couple houses away across the street. At another house just down from that one lived a single gay man. Nepp fast made acquaintances on the bus commute into Minneapolis with another gay Golden Valley resident. These were in addition to the handful of gay friends they knew in the suburb prior to moving. It wasn't long before the couple realized how the numbers were adding up.

"So we come to find out they're all around us everywhere," says Fonnest, with a laugh. "What can we say? Golden Valley is where gay couples go to settle down."

According to census data from UCLA's Williams Institute, Fonnest is right. There are more gay couples, married or unmarried, living in Golden Valley per capita than any other city in Minnesota.

### BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

The second annual Golden Valley Pride Festival on Sunday, June 11, commenced with thunder that roared like battleship guns and hail pelting the lawns of Brookview Park. Teams of volunteers, who arrived at the location as early as 7:30 a.m., made sure the event would go off as planned. As the winds ripped, they tightened their hold on the village of exhibitor tents and community group tables.

One of the volunteers was Christopher Robinson. The 45-year-old Robinson and his partner, Jonathan Yeomans, bailed on south



GALEN FLETCHER

Fortune's favor landed Jacqueline Day, left, in Golden Valley in 1981. She's pictured here with wife Carol Bemis.

Minneapolis three years ago, trading city life for more square footage. They looked at homes in Edina, Richfield, and Golden Valley, where they met would-be neighbors.

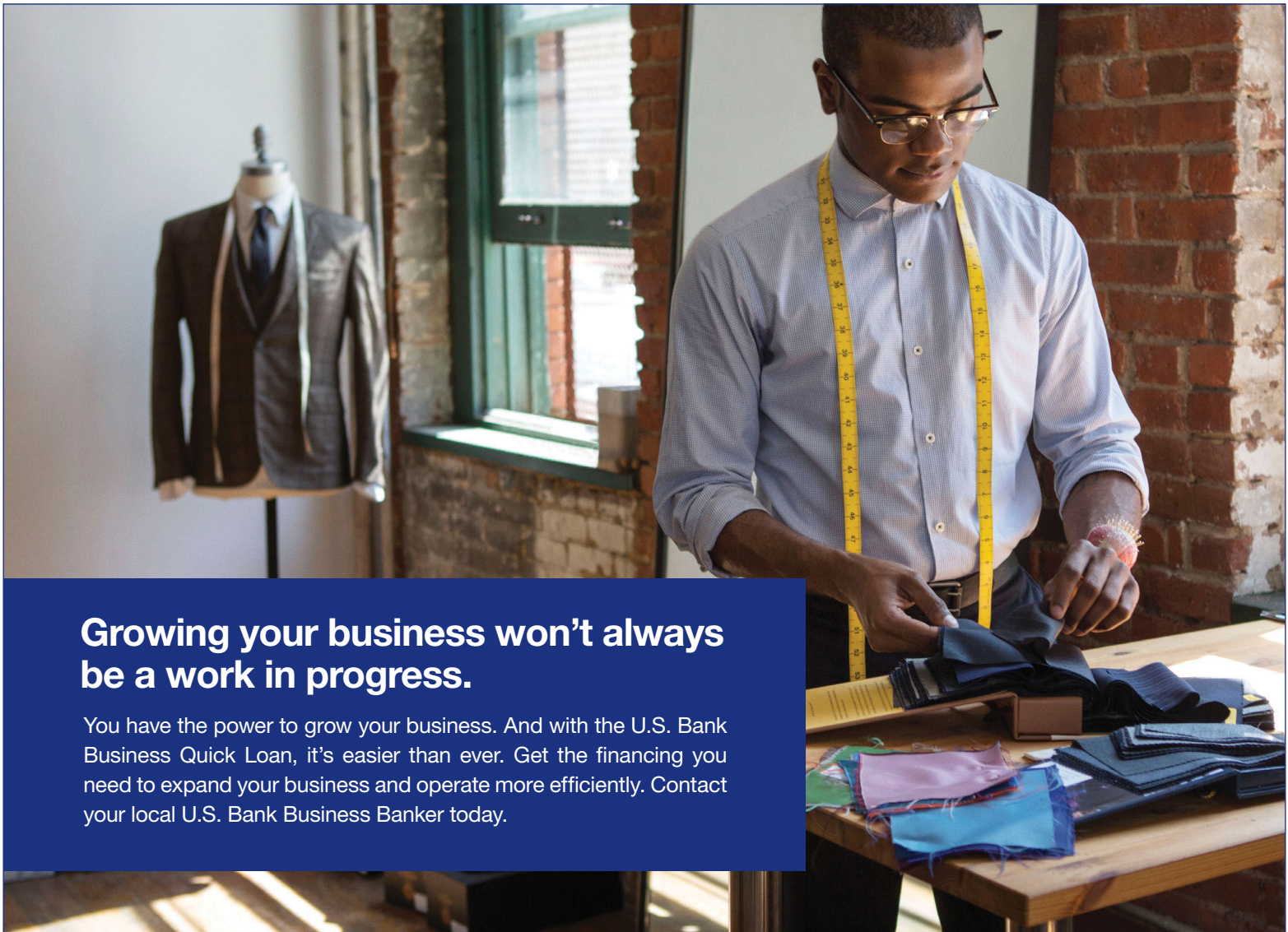
"It was fantastic," Robinson says. "A diverse group of people, a younger group of people, a couple of gay couples, some just-married couples. It was great to see that and feel how all these people were really excited to be where they were, and be a part of this community."

Last year's inaugural local Pride Festival attracted some 3,000 attendees. Despite mercurial skies, this year's festival quickly drew 1,000. They sifted through the menagerie of food trucks and booths set up by the Girl Scouts, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, and Clare Housing, which provides services and affordable housing to those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

The biggest crowds would materialize in a few hours, ushered in by beams of sunshine breaking through cracks in the overcast sky.

Among those soaking it all in was Lisa Nordeen, a resident of Golden Valley for the last four and a half years. Nordeen's move from north Minneapolis to the suburb accomplished two things: cohabitation with her girlfriend and bidding adieu to what she describes as the big city's indifferent hubris.





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June 25, 2017

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and **Kimora Blac**  
(from RuPaul's Drag Race Season 9)  
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GALEN FLETCHER

"I call it an urban arrogance," says Nordeen. "Whereas Golden Valley has that friendly, neighborly kind of vibe. You eliminate formality and you create living space so that's really desirable for social settings. I think the queer community is really social, and the architecture with the yards and the opportunity for a patio or a deck plays into that."

Robinson says his heart will always be

## "WHAT CAN WE SAY? GOLDEN VALLEY IS WHERE GAY COUPLES GO TO SETTLE DOWN."

in Minneapolis, "but you get to a certain point in life when you're ready to take yourself out of the hustle and bustle."

He admits that he's torn. On one hand, he doesn't want Golden Valley overrun by carpetbaggers like himself. On the other, he feels the desire to let others know about this place with an energy all its own.

"I feel like Golden Valley is this undiscovered gem," he says. "I kind of want to keep it to ourselves."

### DOWN IN LAVENDER VALLEY

For a long time, suburban life has been synonymous with stifling conventionality; a bastion of blandness on its good days, an all-out assault on non-conformity at its worst.

"The suburbs were scary," says Golden Valley resident and attorney Jonathan Burris. "As a gay man, I can tell you, you were worried about going out there

The Girl Scouts' messy, colorful run was just one of the events at this year's Golden Valley Pride Festival.

and being scalped by some guy on a motorcycle."

Golden Valley was different.

Back in the '80s and '90s, says Burris, the suburb was known as "Lavender Valley" by members of the local LGBTQ community. "There seemed to be an exodus of community folks, couples mostly, from the urban core/'Gay Ghetto' west to the near-downtown suburb," he says. "It laid the foundation for Golden Valley as a place where you could live your life privately and people didn't really much care who you were sleeping with."

"You didn't have somebody standing there rolling out the welcome mat or anything for you. It was an energy thing, back then, all the way until now. You could start a family, however you defined it, and people minded their own business. You didn't have people yelling out the window about some 'dyke haircut.'"

Burris reckons he knew about 10 gay people who lived in the suburb when he first arrived. Today, he estimates the number is closer to 300.

That tradition of inclusivity carried through the next few decades. In 2010, Golden Valley became the seventh municipality in the state to pass a domestic partner registry. While largely a symbolic measure, the unanimous City Council vote effectively opened filing cabinets for couples to document their relationships, which could help in securing benefits from employers and businesses.

Not everyone came to Golden Valley seeking refuge from an unfriendly world.

"I landed in Golden Valley totally by chance," says Jacqueline Day, who moved to the suburb in 1981. "Finding my first

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GALEN FLETCHER

house here was just about getting my feet on the ground more than anything else. It had nothing to do with any reason other than it was close to downtown, and it was green, and I was attracted to Wirth Park."

Day still lives in Golden Valley, in a house she bought with wife Carol Bemis in 2007, and says the neighborhoods, the architecture of the housing, the parks—those are the reasons most people move

"We've helped people get connected," says resident Larry Fonnest, middle, alongside husband Jim Nepp on right.

looking for a new place to call home.

"We told them about this open house in Golden Valley. They went there that same day and bought it," says Fonnest. "We've helped people get connected."

## "YOU DIDN'T HAVE SOMEBODY STANDING THERE ROLLING OUT THE WELCOME MAT OR ANYTHING FOR YOU. IT WAS AN ENERGY THING."

there. "It's not necessarily because they want to be in this [gay] community."

Yet word-of-mouth has helped shape the community all the same. One friendly chat at a time, residents advertise that Golden Valley is a welcoming locale. Nepp and husband Fonnest, who was elected to the Golden Valley City Council in 2013, pride themselves on being proactive ambassadors for the suburb. They were the seventh couple to register under the city's domestic partner registry.

"Just recently," Nepp says, "we had a house go up for sale in the neighborhood. We immediately made a phone call to a [gay] couple that had brunch with us in Golden Valley. They looked at it and they bought it."

The couple had dinner at another couple's home in Fridley. They, too, were

## OUT TOGETHER

Toward the end of the row of the Golden Valley Pride Festival exhibitors, Harry Hartigan pitches Prime Timers, a nonprofit that promotes social activities for older gay and bisexual men.

When Minneapolis hosts its two-day Pride bash, Hartigan will be in attendance doing the same. But the 69-year-old Minneapolis resident much prefers Golden Valley's event to that of its larger neighbor to the east.

"It's my understanding now Golden Valley has a rather large gay and lesbian community, which I didn't know much about," says Hartigan. "Coming to this event, now for the second time, there are a lot of people out. That's what's impressed me the most, and they've done it without a whole lot of advertising."

Something else has impressed Hartigan too. It's the vibe on the grounds today, an energy that resonates much differently than that inside the City of Lakes.

"The people seem to be much more open here," he says. "When you work Pride in the city [of Minneapolis] like I've done for 18 years, they'll walk by and don't want to talk to you. They'll take your candy. But they don't want to have a dialogue."

He says the Golden Valley Pride Festival feels more welcoming, friendlier.

"Here it feels like community. Here you feel like you can connect with people." ☐



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# OUT IN THE TAPROOM

Finding space to drink beer and be queer in the Twin Cities



Grant Meidal

KATELYN REGENSCHEID

BY KATELYN REGENSCHEID

Coming out for Grant Meidal meant ending a 29-year marriage, leaving four children in California, and saying goodbye to a long career in the church. “I thought, ‘I’m wrecked now,’” he says.

Meidal came to Minneapolis in 2010 alone and in need of community. The connections he made in gay bars felt superficial, so he turned to the internet for help. And beer.

Within the world of craft beer, Meidal carved out a space for queer men to connect meaningfully. He created a weekly event in the MeetUp app calling gay, bi, and trans male-identified folk to join him for a beer. Meidal hoped the group, which he dubbed Boys & Brews, would become a haven for queer guys looking for friendship and community.

Boys & Brews is two years old now, a firmly established group in the Minneapolis queer community. More than 250 people have taken part, and a dozen are regular attendees.

“I count on it to get me through the week,” says Paul Winslow. “The group has become more of a brotherhood.”

In contrast to the “meat market” Meidal experienced at some gay bars, craft beer taprooms are unassuming venues. They tend to be more low-key, and there’s something about a carefully concocted brew—like how you drink it—that’s different from shots and rail drinks.

“It was really great to be authentic and to come out, but the gay community has not been an easy place to realize that part of myself,” Meidal says. “I’ve struggled with that, and I think Boys & Brews has been an outcome of me finding something I love to do and sharing that with others.”

Boys & Brews brings together a diverse group ranging in age, interests, professions, and length of time they’ve been out. Every Wednesday night, they line up outside LynLake brewery, ready for the doors to open at 5. The drinking buddies’ conversations can range from small talk to sex lives; with a bit of social lubricant, every topic surfaces.

Meidal says in his experience running Boys & Brews, brewers care more about what you think of their beer than they do about your sex life. Besides, many breweries have a bit of a wild side to them anyway, he says.

“You see all the beards and stuff, and that seems overly masculine, but then I’d see videos that [a brewery] would post online, and they’d be dancing on the bar. In my day, it would have been so risky to dance and move like that and to act in... a feminine way,” says Meidal. “But there’s no stereotyping for these guys—they’re having

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fun. And I think that’s been the welcome card for me: ‘Come as you are and dance on the bar; we don’t have an expectation, because we’re just being ourselves.’ I’ve always hoped that’s what life could be like.”

You’ll often find Meidal at LynLake Brewery, but he makes his way around the metro area in search of more come-as-you-are taprooms. Some of his favorites are Dangerous Man, Able Seedhouse, and HeadFlyer.



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Urban Growler's Jill Pavlak and Deb Loch

KATELYN REGENSCHEID

### 'WE THUMB OUR NOSES AT THE MAINSTREAM'

To be female in the brewing industry is rare enough. To also be queer makes for an even more uncommon combination, but it's not something either woman in the Urban Growler duo chooses to highlight. For Deb Loch and Jill Pavlak, sex and identity are non-issues.

All they care about is their customers enjoying the food, beer, and conversation.

Loch, master brewer, started Urban Growler with engineering experience and a passion for making beer worth drinking. Pavlak, co-owner, brought to the table both business ownership and restaurant experience, including time with the Longfellow Grill and the Lowry.

They want their St. Paul taproom to be welcoming to anyone. They typically keep the temperature warmer, in consideration of most women's slower metabolism; there are purse hooks for their convenience. There's even housemade lemonade for the non-beer crowd.

That the two of them downplay their identities doesn't keep the community from supporting them. Pavlak recalls the increased business they got on International Women's Day, including men who raised a recently purchased growler to her in a "cheers." One man told Pavlak he dropped in to buy his growler that day in solidarity with a women-owned business.

Loch believes beer is inherently social and experiential, and that it tastes better when shared, which is why the brewing world is so welcoming to marginalized groups.

"We truly believe we have more in common with people than we differ," Pavlak says. "We just want to be respected

and known for good food and good beer."

For Kathleen Culhane, former owner and brewer of east St. Paul's Sidhe Brewing, being a beer drinker is one of the few mainstream facets of her identity. She's trans- and queer-identified, Wiccan, and a woman — as rare an assortment of characteristics as it gets for a head brewer.

At the same time, Culhane sees it as part of the culture. "There's a strong stripe of individualism in the industry," she says. "We thumb our noses at the mainstream."

Being trans makes Culhane more attuned to how a safe space should

**"We truly believe we have more in common with people than we differ."**

operate. In her forthcoming Culhane Brewing taproom in Lowertown St. Paul, Culhane will build a bathroom trans people can use without fear. Beyond the bathrooms, Culhane believes the queer-friendly culture will fall into place naturally. When the only rule is don't be a jerk, being homophobic or transphobic simply isn't on the table.

And a comfortable space puts the focus back where it belongs: on the beer. In both flavor and ABV, Culhane's beer at Sidhe, and her future brews at Culhane Brewing, are intentionally approachable. For everyone. "Beer is the connector." **GF**



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As you enter the spiffed-up former warehouse, a counter juts out to greet you, extending under glass the five prototypes of bagels on offer that day. Rise keeps the lineup rustic and familiar: sesame, poppyseed, plain, salt, and everything.

One bagel will run you \$1.75; it's \$3-\$3.75 for a bagel with cream cheese (including a vegan option!) and spreads. A half-dozen goes for \$8.50, a full dozen, \$16.50. They aren't cheap, but then, their ingredients (organic) and methods (hand-made and then "rolled, boiled, topped on both sides, and baked") aren't cheap either.

The bagel produced at Rise is not the dense bread-bomb of modern chain shops. It's slimmer, crispy on the outside with a slight chew, and soft at the center. It makes for a balanced topping-to-bagel ratio.

In addition to the straightforward bagel-and-shmear options, Rise serves a handful of breakfast and lunch sandwiches. Grab an egg and cheese for \$5.50, or spring for the classic lox with cream cheese, capers, and onions for \$12. We were quite taken with the inspired "Artisan" breakfast sammy, with egg, bacon, melty Havarti, arugula, rosemary butter, and apple mustard, a worthy treat at \$8.

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Open-faced sandwiches bring a little more fun to the menu, like the Pop Tart, topped with buttercream frosting, strawberry preserves, and, of course, sprinkles. For something completely outside the box, the Wonton takes a sesame bagel and loads it up with jalapeno cream cheese, sweet and sour sauce, hot mustard, and crushed wontons. Both items are \$5.

Lunch starts at 11 a.m. (breakfast, for the record, goes all day) and includes a tidy list of three sandwiches: smoked turkey, roast beef, and garden veggie, for \$8-\$9. Wash down your bagels with locally roasted coffee, organic tea, local soda, or Topo Chico bottled mineral water.

And a touch to make you nostalgic for your favorite New York bagel shop: The sandwiches come wrapped in brown wax paper and sliced in two, paper and all. Go halvesies with a friend or save one half for later — if you can wait that long.—HANNAH SAYLE

## SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS LOSING CAFE MAUDE, GETTING NEW KIM BARTMANN RESTAURANT

First the bad news: Cafe Maude, a south Minneapolis dining favorite for a decade, is closing up shop July 31.

Now the good news: Restaurateur Kim Bartmann announced she'll add the space at 5411 Penn Ave. S. to her considerable restaurant empire, which currently includes Bryant-Lake Bowl, Kyatchi, Pat's Tap, Red Stag Supperclub, Bread & Pickle, and more.

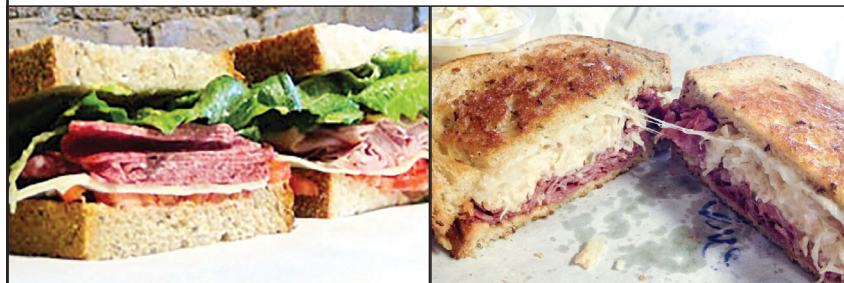
Bartmann and chef Asher Miller (Andrew Zimmern's Canteen, Wolfgang Puck's 20.21) plan to "respect the space's French heritage while adding California influences and taking advantage of the existing wood-fire grill," according to Thursday's press release. They're hoping to open this fall.

This is not Bartmann's first takeover of a Cafe Maude location. In 2013, the short-lived Maude outpost near Loring Park became Bartmann's Third Bird (she'd go on to re-brand it as Bearcat and, now, The Bird).

No word on what they'll name the soon-to-be-former Cafe Maude, but the bistro will be missed. The deep south of Minneapolis is not known for cocktails and live music, two areas where Maude shines. Wood-fired meats and gourmet mac 'n' cheese helped the self-dubbed "home of civilized leisure" live up to its motto. —JAY BOLLER

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# A LIST

**FRIDAY** Beer Dabbler pre-games Pride P. 29

**SATURDAY** Twin Cities Pride P. 33

**SUNDAY** Sixty food trucks head to Uptown P. 34



Pride takes to the streets in joyful celebration this weekend.

RJL PHOTOGRAPHY

## WEDNESDAY 6.21

### LGBTQ

#### PRIDE PARTIES

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Pride weekend is here, and with it comes a variety of dance nights, performances, parking-lot parties, and more. Things kick off on Wednesday as *RuPaul's Drag Race* icon Latrice Royale will take the stage at Hell's Kitchen (80 S. Ninth St., Minneapolis). Will she lip sync for her life and offer sage, Oprah-esque words of wisdom? Let's hope so. The show is at 9 p.m. and tickets run \$18-\$20. The Saloon (830 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis) will be celebrating 40 years at Pride with a three-day block party that includes special happy hours, food trucks, arcade games, DJ tunes, live music, and a drag show hosted by *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy's* Carson Kressley. Grown and Sexy Pride VII will take over First Avenue and 7th St. Entry (701 N. First

Ave., Minneapolis) on Friday, with performances from Dykes Do Drag, DJ Shannon Blowtorch, burlesque artist Sweet Pea, and many more (tickets are \$10-\$14 and the show is at 9 p.m.). Flip Phone will be queer bombing the Twin Cities with two parties. On Friday, they'll host Planet Glitter at Union Rooftop (731 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis). Here you'll find pop-up drag from Aja (also from *RuPaul's Drag Race*) and friends, plus glitter stations to help you get your sparkle on. Tickets are \$10-\$20, and the party starts at 9 p.m. Then on Saturday, Flip Phone will be at First Avenue for more drag and a dance floor fueled by pop hits. Parade rooftop parties on Sunday include happenings at Union, 4 Bells, and Crave. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

### SPORTS

#### CAPTURE THE FLAG

WASHBURN FAIR OAKS PARK

Who says summertime games like Capture the Flag are just for children?

The Grown-Up Club hosts fun nights for adults who want to spend an evening playing like kids. Instead of firing up your Nintendo Wii, head out to the grassy lawn at Washburn Fair Oaks Park, where you'll meet and form teams with players who also want to take a break from adulthood. You may have a beer gut and a little bit of a wheeze from all those cigarettes (gotta get started on quitting, right?), but we're all a little older and slower these days anyway. During the games, new friendships will be forged, rivalries will become legendary, and beers will be used to salute afterward at a nearby pub (you can't be a kid forever, after all). 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free. 200 24th St. E., Minneapolis; 612-230-6400. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

### BOOKS/LGBTQ/SPORTS

#### SAMMI JONES

MAGERS & QUINN BOOKSELLERS

When Minnesota native Sammi Jones first tried out for the Fargo-Moorhead

Derby Girls team, she could hardly stay upright on her roller skates. But with enough determination, grit, and guts, she not only made the team, she kicked some serious ass doing so. Christened Toni Crush, she quickly picked up derby lingo, honed her skills, and overcame concussions. She chronicles this daring journey in the new memoir, *Derby Girl*. The book isn't just about bouts and jamming and picking a derby wife, however; it's also an excruciatingly honest story about navigating family dynamics and new relationships, coming to terms with her sexuality, suffering the consequences of alcoholism, and struggling to make a living as a writer. With *Derby Girl*, Jones candidly confronts the confusion and ambiguity during a period of her life when nothing was certain except her love for skating. These days Jones, who now lives in the Twin Cities and is an assistant editor for a trade magazine, skates on for the North Star Roller Girls team. 7 p.m. Free. 3038 Hennepin Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-822-4611. —ERICA RIVERA

### COMEDY

#### ASIF ALI

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

"I'm a great uncle," comedian Asif Ali tells an audience. "But I recently ruined my nephew's birthday party, because I'm an adult and I use logic, and he's 7." Ali asked his nephew what kind of theme he wanted for the celebration. "Superheroes," the boy replied. His nephew wanted to be the Incredible Hulk, to which Ali told him that there are "two things that have to happen for you to become a superhero. Hulk is not a superhero. One, you have to start off like a regular loser. Two, something awesome happens to you and you get all these cool powers and your life is clearly better." He used Spider-Man/Peter Parker as an example. "The Incredible Hulk is Bruce Banner, a guy that's already killing it in science. He gets into a radioactive accident, and when he gets angry he turns into a giant green dumb-ass." A successful actor, Ali has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27 ►



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CONTINUED FROM WEDNESDAY ►

appeared on *Modern Family*, *New Girl*, and *Wrecked*, which parodies *Lost*. 18+; 21+ later shows. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$13-\$22. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday —P.F. WILSON**

## PERFORMANCE

## QUEERTOPIA

INTERMEDIA ARTS

Add the always fantastic Queertopia to your list of Pride activities this week. Now in its 12th year, this festival of visual and performance art attempts the impossible: to top its own sizzling legacy of showcasing righteous queer voices from diverse spectrums of the community. This installment will be hosted by Lisa Marie Brimmer and MikeQueenz, bringing together queer and trans bodies in revolt against violent oppression. The lineup includes powerhouse art collective Free Black Dirt, the fabulous “Big Gay Mexican” Hector Chavarria, and breathtaking dance artist Holo Lue Choy, as well as

visual art from the likes of Akiko Ostlund and Chandler Daily. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. \$15/\$18 at the door; \$5-\$25 sliding scale Wednesday. 2822 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-4444. **Through Saturday —SHEILA REGAN**

THURSDAY 6.22

## DANCE

KALEENA MILLER  
DANCE: SHIFT

SOUTHERN THEATER

Happy feet all around! Kaleena Miller Dance is back with *Shift*. Created by Miller, founding member of the exuberant troupe Rhythmic Circus and co-director of the Twin Cities Tap Festival, the piece will be performed every night to different live music. The musicians are all notable locals: Reid Anderson (the Bad Plus), JT Bates (Alpha Consumer), Alexei Caselle (Kill the Vultures, Roma Di Luna), and Leah Ottman (LOTT, Fog). This week's show is an excellent opportunity to not only see how tap is being preserved and extended in the Twin Cities, but how

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29 ►

## COMEDY/PRIDE WEEK

## TIG NOTARO

HISTORIC STATE THEATRE

After battling some serious health problems in the past few years, comedian Tig Notaro feels great. “I am utterly happy and healthy, as far as I know,” she says, “and do not have a complaint in the world. It’s embarrassing, frankly.” The way she discussed her health problems onstage, along with other personal challenges she was facing at that time, helped vault her to the level of comedian’s comedian. Her act has drawn praise from noted contemporaries like Louis CK and Sarah Silverman. Comedy fans have known for years that she is absolutely hilarious with her low-key, deadpan delivery. Before doing standup, she worked as a music promoter, a job that paid dividends when she switched to comedy. “Knowing that an artist or performer has to focus on getting themselves to a certain place before any industry executives can really step in and do something for their career was something I learned,” she says. “You have to get your contraption off the ground first before someone is going to want to step in and assist in keeping it afloat.” With Fortune Feimster. 8 p.m. \$30-\$79. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007. **—P.F. WILSON**



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# COMING TO THE DAKOTA



**CHRISTIAN SANDS**  
JUNE 21



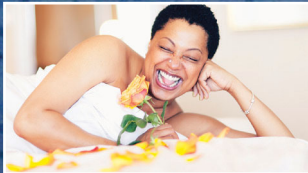
**JONATHA BROOKE**  
JUNE 22



**DJANGO FESTIVAL ALL-STARS**  
JUNE 23-24



**TRACE BUNDY**  
JUNE 25

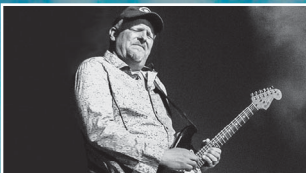


**LISA FISCHER & GRAND BATON**  
JUNE 27-28



**TINSLEY ELLIS**  
JUNE 29

**ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK'S**  
**LEA DELARIA**  
LEA DELARIA + DAVID BOWIE = JAZZ  
**JUNE 26 | 7 & 9PM**



**ALBERT CUMMINGS**  
JUNE 30



**BEVERLY McCLELLAN**  
JULY 2



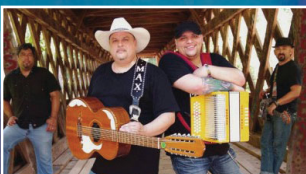
**THE STEELES**  
JULY 3



**THE DUSTBOWL REVIVAL**  
JULY 5



**MIKE DOUGHTY**  
JULY 7-8



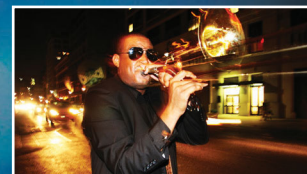
**LOS TEXMANIACS**  
JULY 9



**THE RAD TRADS & THE BROTHER BROTHERS**  
JULY 10



**GRAHAM PARKER & BRINSLEY SCHWARZ**  
JULY 13



**GLEN DAVID ANDREWS**  
JULY 14

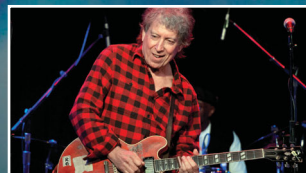


**RED BARAAT**  
JULY 17

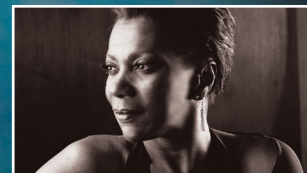
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#### CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ►

sound influences movement and vice versa. 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$20/\$24 at the door; \$12 students. 1420 S. Washington Ave., Minneapolis; 612-326-1811.

**Through Sunday —CAMILLE LEFEVRE**

#### FRIDAY 6.23

##### FESTIVAL

### MINNESOTA STREET ROD ASSOCIATION'S BACK TO THE FIFTIES WEEKEND

MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

One of the greatest signs of spring is when the flora begins to bloom in a burst of colors. That moment is fleeting, however, as spring in Minnesota is usually over pretty quickly. Vintage car owners pick up that mantle in the summertime, flaunting their candy-colored wheels on the main drags of our cities. Back to the Fifties Weekend will celebrate these vehicles, as hundreds will be lined up along the streets of the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. There will be muscle cars, hot rods, and trucks. Chat with owners about their experiences working on their vehicles, or simply admire their projects up close. During festivities there will also be swap meets, an arts and crafts fair, kids' fun, and live entertainment. Save yourself the stress of sitting in traffic on Snelling and be sure to check out MetroTransit.com for a free ride pass. Tickets and more info can be found at msrabacktothe50s.com. 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. \$12; free for kids 12 and under. 1265 Snelling Ave., St. Paul; 651-288-4400. **Through Sunday —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

##### BEER/LGBTQ

### 2017 BEER DABBLER

LORING PARK

This year brings the sixth annual Pride Dabbler to the Twin Cities. Held before the big festival kicks off on Saturday, this Dabbler offers a lineup of 50 Minnesota breweries, each of which has come up with a Lady Gaga-themed beer. As people drink, they'll enjoy tunes from the Flip Phone crew, Lady Lark, and Apollo Cobra. Celebrate local makers while basking in the outdoors — rain or shine. Tickets and more info can be found at beerdabblers.com. A portion of ticket sales benefit Twin Cities Pride. 21+. 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$45-\$55; \$20 designated driver. 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis. **—LOREN GREEN**

##### THEATER

### DANCING ON THE BELLY OF THE BEAST

THE RITZ THEATER

What does it mean to suddenly lose a parent as an adult? That unmooring, infused with grief and how one transitions into a new sort of normal, is the subject of Off-Leash Area's latest production. It's the sort of topic this dance-theater company deals with so well. Emotional complexity, the intricacies of family dynamics, and creativity amid debilitating physical and psychic despair are fully within the purview of co-artistic directors Jennifer Ilse and Paul Herwig. Here, they are joined by a cast of MSP dance notables, including Karla Grotting, Christine Maginnis, Sally Rousse, and Ray Terrill. All have lost parents, and bring raw experience and dancer

CONTINUED ON PAGE 33 ►

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**JUN 24**  
**FLIP PHONE: XXL PRIDE**  
FT. VALENTINA AND MAX

**JUN 29**  
GO 96.3 PRESENTS  
**GO SHOW FT. MISTERWIVES: BAND CAMP TOUR**  
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**JUN 30**  
**MORE DRAKE NITE**  
FT. DJ BACH, DJ GREENERY, (CLOUD)

**JUL 03**  
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**MIKE SNOW**  
WITH KLANGSTOF

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**JUL 13**  
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**JUL 19**  
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**JUL 21**  
**ANDREW BIRD**  
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**JUL 29**  
**MIKE STUD** (ALL AGES)

**AUG 02**  
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**AUG 04**  
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**THE SUBURBS**  
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**AUG 06**  
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS  
**SYLVAN ESSO**  
WITH FLOCK OF DIMES

**AUG 09**  
**ECHO & THE BUNNYMEN**

**AUG 10**  
**TAKING BACK SUNDAY**  
WITH EVERY TIME I DIE, ALL GET OUT

**AUG 15**  
**SHAKEY GRAVES**  
WITH DAVID RAMIREZ

**AUG 18**  
**JESSE LARSON**  
WITH #MPLS, ALEX ROSSI  
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**AUG 22**  
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**AUG 24**  
**WASHED OUT**

**AUG 29**  
FIRST AVENUE AND JAM PRESENT  
**MIDNIGHT OIL**  
THE GREAT CIRCLE TOUR  
WITH THE LIVING END

**SEP 12**  
**OH WONDER**  
ULTRALIFE TOUR

**SEP 13**  
**X**  
40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

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## ALSO AT FIRST AVENUE

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**THUNDERCAT**

**SEP 18**  
**ANDREW W.K.**

**SEP 19**  
**DEAD CROSS**

**SEP 21**  
**THE AFGHAN WHIGS**  
W/ HAR MAR SUPERSTAR

**SEP 26**  
**REVEREND HORTON HEAT, FISHBONE AND STRUNG OUT**  
W/ LOS KUNG FU MONKEYS

**SEP 29**  
**JUDAH & THE LION**  
GOING TO MARS TOUR  
W/ THE ACADEMIC

**OCT 01**  
**FUTURE ISLANDS**

**OCT 02**  
**ANGEL OLSEN**  
W/ MOUNT MORIAH

**OCT 07**  
**BLUE OCTOBER**

**OCT 08**  
**TOADIES**  
W/ LOCAL H

## UP NEXT 7TH ST ENTRY

**PRIZM, OLE SOLES, SOUNDS OF JOHNNY T AND T, BLACKK, GENREAL**  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

**THE PAINS OF BEING PURE AT HEART**  
W/ BEVERLY, ABLEBODY, DJ ELI HANSEN  
THURSDAY, JUNE 22

**ROONEY**  
W/ RUN RIVER NORTH, TWINSMITH  
FRIDAY, JUNE 23

**LADY MIDNIGHT AND DREAM OF THE WILD**  
W/ SEABERG  
SATURDAY, JUNE 24

**TEEN DAZE AND SAM O.B.**  
W/ DENNIS  
SUNDAY, JUNE 25

**ADULT MOM, FREE CAKE FOR EVERY CREATURE, STRANGE RELATIONS, 4TH CURTIS**  
MONDAY, JUNE 26

**(SANDY) ALEX G**  
W/ JAPANESE BREAKFAST, CENDE  
TUESDAY, JUNE 27

**LAST IMPORT, NASTY PARADISE, JOHNNY YUMA, OTTO VAN**  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

## UP NEXT TURF CLUB

BEST MUSIC RESIDENCY, BEST JUKEBOX - CITY PAGES 2017

**NIGHT MOVES**  
W/ MARIAH MERCEDES, JADE EARTH (FREE WITH RSVP)  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

**THE GIVING TREE BAND**  
W/ THE CERNY BROTHERS  
THURSDAY, JUNE 22

**ELECTRIC SIX**  
W/ NORTHERN FACES  
SATURDAY, JUNE 24

**A TRIBUTE TO GILLIAN WELCH**  
FT. CALAMITY AND THE OWL, THE LOWLAND LAKERS, AND MORE  
SUNDAY, JUNE 25

**FRANKIE LEE & FRIENDS**  
IN THE CLOWN LOUNGE  
MONDAY, JUNE 26

**JOSEPH ARTHUR**  
PERFORMING 'REDEMPTION'S SON'  
W/ ALLISON PIERCE  
TUESDAY, JUNE 27

**THE REVEREND PEYTON'S BIG DAMN BAND**  
W/ DUMPY JUG BUMPERS  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

**CASH'D OUT**  
W/ JOHN DAVID & THE JERKS  
THURSDAY, JUNE 29

**GENERAL B AND THE WIZ**  
ALBUM RELEASE  
W/ SLEEPING JESUS, RUBEN  
FRIDAY, JUNE 30

**AARON GORTON AND THE DOT DOT DOT, THE PERSON & THE PEOPLE, A PIANO IN EVERY HOME**  
SATURDAY, JULY 1

## UP NEXT PALACE THEATRE

BEST CONCERT VENUE - CITY PAGES 2017

**JUL 16**  
**ALL TIME LOW**  
YOUNG RENEGADES TOUR  
W/ SWMRS, WATERPARKS, THE WRECKS

**JUL 26**  
**SOCIAL DISTORTION**  
W/ JADE JACKSON

**AUG 03**  
**GARY CLARK JR.**  
W/ JACKIE VENSON

**AUG 05**  
**BRYAN FERRY**  
W/ JUDITH OWEN

**AUG 15**  
**BELLE AND SEBASTIAN**  
W/ JULIEN BAKER

**AUG 25**  
**2 CHAINZ**  
'PRETTY GIRLS LIKE TRAP MUSIC' TOUR 2017

**SEP 07**  
**CONOR OBERST**  
W/ PHOEBE BRIDGERS

**SEP 16**  
**SPOON**  
W/ TWIN PEAKS

**SEP 27**  
**GLASS ANIMALS**

**SEP 28**  
**BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE**  
'HUG OF THUNDER TOUR 2017'  
W/ FRIGHTENED RABBIT

**OCT 01**  
**FLEET FOXES**

**OCT 10**  
**PIXIES**  
W/ MITSKI

## UP NEXT OTHER VENUES

**FREDDIE GIBBS**  
'YOU ONLY LIVE 2WICE TOUR'  
W/ JON CONNOR, MAC IRV  
FINE LINE  
FRIDAY, JUNE 23

**STRFKR**  
W/ REPTALIENS  
FINE LINE  
MONDAY, JUNE 26

**DIRTY HEADS AND SOJA**  
W/ THE GREEN, RDGLDRN  
CABOOZE OUTDOOR PLAZA  
FRIDAY, JULY 1

**HIPPO CAMPUS w/ POLICA**  
W/ LOW, REMO DRIVE, J.S. ONDARA  
BAYFRONT PARK (DULUTH, MN)  
SATURDAY, JULY 8 (ALL AGES)

**MICHELLE BRANCH**  
THE HOPELESS ROMANTIC TOUR  
FINE LINE  
SATURDAY, JULY 8

**MURA MASA**  
W/ KUCKA  
FINE LINE  
TUESDAY, JULY 25

**BALLYHOO!**  
W/ KASH'D OUT  
TRIPLE ROCK  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

**BOB SCHNEIDER**  
W/ TRAVIS LINVILLE  
FINE LINE  
SATURDAY, JULY 29

**MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD**  
'LOVE OUT LOUD TOUR 2017'  
CABOOZE OUTDOOR PLAZA  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

**FATHER JOHN MISTY**  
W/ TENNIS  
SURLY BREWING FESTIVAL FIELD  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

**THAO (OF THE GET DOWN STAY DOWN)**  
W/ YOWLER (SOLO)  
THE CEDAR  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

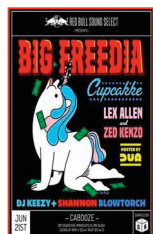
**DOWNTOWN BOYS**  
TRIPLE ROCK SOCIAL CLUB  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15



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**JUNE 21**



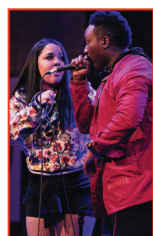
**OCTOBER RAGE**  
W/ FILTHY SWEET, & BREED  
**JUNE 22**



CABOOZE & LN PRESENT  
**AARON WATSON**  
W/ ZANE WILLIAMS  
**JUNE 23**



CABOOZE & GRRL CAMP PRESENTS  
**SUMMER CAMP**  
4TH ANNUAL PRIDE PARTY  
**JUNE 24**



**ILLISM 'GENERATION ILL - THE SHED!'**  
W/ JAY HOLLYWOOD & COLOR ME KINDLY!  
**JUNE 29**



CABOOZE, FIRST AVE & ROSE PRESENT  
**DIRTY HEADS & SOJA**  
W/ THE GREEN, & RDGLDGRN  
**JULY 1**



CABOOZE & GO 96.3 PRESENT  
**GO FEST '17**  
FEAT. BLEACHERS, MUTEMATH, & MORE!  
**JULY 2**



CABOOZE & RIDEMN PRESENT  
**X GAMES**  
RIDE BLOCK PARTY!  
W/ LIVE STUNTS, MUSIC, VENDORS & MORE!  
**JULY 15-16**

## UPCOMING

6/30 ..... **The Belfast Cowboys!** W/ WARNING SHAPES  
7/13 ..... LEOPRESENTS.COM **Behemoth**  
7/21 ..... CABOOZE & PARTIER PRESENT **Ghostface Killah** W/ CARNAGE THE EXECUTIONER, RAW DAWG  
7/22 ..... **ONE - The Metallica Tribute Band** W/ CASTER VOLOR  
7/23 ..... **Cowboy Mouth!** W/ SPECIAL GUEST TBA  
8/3 ..... **Cody Johnson** W/ HITCHVILLE  
8/5 ..... CABOOZE & MID AMERICA PRESENT **Guitar Legend Dick Dale!**  
8/13 ..... LEOPRESENTS.COM **The Rocket Summer 'DO YOU FEEL' 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR**  
8/16 ..... **Saliva!** W/ STRANGE DAZE  
8/17 ..... **Tab Benoit**  
8/18 ..... CABOOZE, FIRST AVE, & ROSE PRESENT **Michael Franti & Spearhead 'LOVE OUT LOUD TOUR' PLAZA SHOW!**  
8/19 ..... FAT TIRE PRESENTS **TOUR DE FAT**  
FEAT. THE RECORD COMPANY W/ BEATS, BEER & BEMUSEMENT PLAZA SHOW!  
11/14 ..... CABOOZE & LIVE NATION PRESENT **NEW FOUND GLORY**  
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ALBUM OUT 8/25/17



## FESTIVAL/LGBTQ

## TWIN CITIES PRIDE

LORING PARK

Twin Cities Pride is huge and expansive, with lots of happenings to enjoy. Do you love a great parade? They've got you covered (11 a.m. on Sunday). There are comedy showcases (such as Fortune Feimster and Tig Notaro on Thursday), live music, theater performances, documentary screenings, and sporting events (including a St. Paul Saints night). And then there's the annual festival in Loring Park, the big ol' LGBTQ meet-and-greet where you can connect with organizations, social groups, artists, and businesses all celebrating Pride. Now, some may wonder: Do we need a Pride Festival anymore? Hasn't equality been achieved? Same-sex marriage is legal, right? There are still plenty of critical issues, including trans rights, the fight against bathroom bills, struggles against all kinds of discrimination, and terrifying persecution in countries around the globe. It's more important than ever to come out and stand united against hate, but also to celebrate the strength and vibrancy of the community. For a full schedule of happenings and locations, visit [www.tcpride.org](http://www.tcpride.org). 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday in the park. Free. 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis. **Through Sunday** —SHEILA REGAN



KHALIL ROSS

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

virtuosity to a performance laced with truth and authenticity. 8 p.m. Friday through Sunday. \$10-\$30 suggested donation. 345 13th Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-361-6960.

**Through Sunday** —CAMILLE LEFEBVRE

SATURDAY 6.24

## THEATER

## ONE MAN STAR WARS

ORDWAY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Being a globally recognized brand with a devoted fan base, ubiquitous merchandise, and a slate of film projects planned even beyond the foreseeable future, the *Star Wars* franchise seems to be without boundaries. Even so, earlier generations will recall a time when the galaxy far, far away was defined by "The Trilogy": *Star Wars* (1977), *The Empire Strikes Back* (1980), and *Return of the Jedi* (1983). Like so many impressionable kids of the early '80s, Canadian comic Charles Ross spent his formative years obsessing over these three films. Not content as a passive viewer, however, Ross used his 400-plus screenings as background research for creating his own highly condensed one-man recreation of the trilogy. Not only does Ross portray each of the characters in his production, he also uses his voice to mimic the

iconic John Williams score and act out (sans props) the special effects. Perhaps most impressively, the entire saga is wrapped up in a whirlwind hour and change. Though spiked with the occasional comic aside, Ross approaches the material with a fan's affection, a perspective that has made his unusual endeavor a hit with like-minded audiences around the world. As for those with only a passing knowledge of the trilogy, the show serves as an effective cram session in *Star Wars* lore before the franchise's next blockbuster sequel/prequel/expanded adventure. 8 p.m. \$26-\$57. 345 Washington St., St. Paul; 651-224-4222. —BRAD RICHASON

## DANCE

## GLOBAL WATER DANCES

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According to the United Nations, unsafe water kills more people worldwide than violence, and that includes war. This Saturday, 90-plus cities will celebrate our most precious resource through dance. For the Minneapolis installment, taking place at Stone Arch Bridge along the Mississippi River, local choreographers Rae Eden Frank and Lori Mercil have teamed up to create a free performance full of color, dance, and movement. It's all in collaboration with Global Water Dance originator Marylee Hardenbergh. They'll be joined worldwide with happenings in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34 ►

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## A-LIST



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## CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ►

Flint, Berlin, Dehli, Paris, and more. Expect drumming, new choreography, and audience participation, rain or shine. 5 p.m. Free. 212 SE Second Ave., Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

## SUNDAY 6.25

### FESTIVAL/FOOD

## UPTOWN FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

UPTOWN MINNEAPOLIS

When it comes to food trucks, even the most ravenous foodies can be challenged to keep up, searching block after block for the latest culinary sensation from these portable kitchens. Rather than trawling the Twin Cities, however, the hungry should head to the Uptown Food Truck Festival, where more than 60 restaurants on wheels will be parked in one convenient location. Paying no admission, attendees can stroll the area, sampling as their appetites and budgets allow. In addition to a vast array of burgers and encased meats, the fest features an ambitiously diverse menu informed by global influences. Parked alongside the independent trucks, visitors will find four-wheeled ambassadors for such brick-and-mortar restaurants as Market Bar-B-Que, Anchor Fish & Chips, and Betty Danger's Country Club. To tempt taste buds even more, vendors will offer a signature dish for \$5. Craft beers will be available to wash down each course, while two stages of music and a selection of carnival games provide opportunities to expend some calories before bellying up for the next round. Though last year's fest did face criticism over lengthy lines and overcrowded space, organizers have sought a remedy by expanding the

grounds to deter congestion, and allowing for open entry into the air-conditioned quarters of Calhoun Square. With so many delectable options, this festival might just represent the pinnacle of al fresco summertime snacking. The Food Truck Festival will also head to Anoka (July 22) and St. Paul (August 19). 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Free. 3001 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. —BRAD RICHASON

## TUESDAY 6.27

### COMEDY

## CY AMUNDSON

ACME COMEDY CO.

When it comes to walking the line between being a nationally recognized comedian and maintaining your local street cred, no one does it better than Cy Amundson. An alumni of Acme Comedy Co.'s open mic night, Amundson has been splitting his time the past few years between Minnesota and Los Angeles. He's appeared on *Conan*, Comedy Central's *This Is Not Happening*, and *Adam Devine's House Party*. He's also begun dabbling in the world of acting and voice acting. This week, he'll return to his home club with a two-night stretch at Acme to record his sophomore comedy album. While he has been on a tear through the West Coast, Amundson has stayed true to his Minneapolis roots with recent appearances at the Hopkins Comedy Festival and a headlining stint at Acme back in January. It's been three years since his last album, *Lovesick in Toledo*, was released; this week will be your chance to see how he's grown as a performer on the stage where it all began. 18+. 8 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. \$15. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Wednesday, June 28** —PATRICK STRAIT





THE 9TH ANNUAL

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## BACK TO THE



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# EVEN COWBOYS GET THE BLUES

Sam Elliott deals with mortality in *The Hero*



Sam Elliott and  
Laura Prepon

COURTESY OF THE ORCHARD

BY TONY LIBERA

It's baffling that Sam Elliott never became a big-time leading man. The wolverine purr. The effortless charm. The acting chops rivaled only by the cookie duster mounted on his upper lip. This man deserves to have his name on a marquee—and with *The Hero*, he doesn't let the opportunity go to waste.

Elliott plays Lee Hayden, a washed-up Hollywood star best known for his iconic Western roles a few decades back. Acting gigs are few and far between these days, so he spends his time doing commercial voiceover work, eating tacos, and getting stoned with his buddy/drug dealer Jeremy (Nick Offerman). A visit to the doctor reveals an unfortunate biopsy result, and Lee must now come to terms with

pancreatic cancer. How does he do that?

He doesn't. The actor acts, telling those close to him he has plans for a new movie rather than telling them the painful truth. He avoids scheduling oncology appointments. He starts dating a woman (Laura Prepon) half his age. But a lifetime achievement award from the Western Appreciation and Preservation Guild and a potential role in an upcoming blockbuster send Lee headlong into thoughts of his own mortality.

Director Brett Haley reportedly wrote the movie for Elliott, and in ways, *The Hero* feels like nothing more than a vehicle for Elliott to display his considerable talents. The actor deftly runs the emotional gamut here: He manages to be both slick and goofy, he portrays drug use with refreshing realism, and he's

sympathetic when handling his perceived death sentence. When Lee needs to run lines for an audition, Elliott's reading of the audition script is so potent that he transforms its stupid dialogue into something profound.

The moment is a testament to both Elliott's skill and the power of good acting in general. It's hard to imagine anyone else playing the role, and in fact, Elliott's effort here is so impressive that it alone makes the movie worth seeing. If anything, *The Hero's* biggest flaw is that we don't get enough of him.

At 93 minutes, the movie runs quick, cruising through scenes that otherwise could have been compelling analyses of dying and regret. Krysten Ritter feels underutilized in her estranged-daughter subplot. Lee never hits anywhere close

## THE HERO

directed by Brett Haley  
Edina Cinema, starts Friday

to rock bottom. *The Hero* is shooting for the gravity of *The Wrestler* or *Crazy Heart*, but it's never as cohesive or successful as a whole, because it doesn't fully explore its own themes. Without Elliott handily carrying *The Hero*, there wouldn't be too much distinguishing this movie from typical indie dramas.

It'd be a cliché to say that this is the role Sam Elliott was born to play, and maybe cheating since it was made for him. But it's also true. Elliott may still be remembered as a standout supporting actor, but *The Hero* proves he can lead with the best of them. **C**



# MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA



## INSIDE THE CLASSICS

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THE  
FABULOUS  
DEL  
COUNTS

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Music 8:30pm • 21+

SAT, AUGUST 5

TED  
NUGENT

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SATURDAY, JUNE 24

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4PM - 6:30PM

FRI  
JUNE 23

HAPPY HOUR  
4PM - 6:30PM

STEAKHOUSE MUSIC  
NICK HENSLEY - 6PM - 9PM

DJ

DJ SOTA - 10PM - CLOSE

SAT  
JUNE 24

STEAKHOUSE MUSIC  
TIMOTHY PRICE - 6PM - 9PM

LIVE BAND - NO COVER  
LMNOP - 10PM - CLOSE

DJ

DJ ESPADA  
10PM - CLOSE

DEEP HOUSE  
11PM - CLOSE

SUN  
JUNE 25

HAPPY HOUR  
4PM - CLOSE

PRIDE CELEBRATION  
ROOFTOP BRUNCH

DJ GREENERY  
11AM - 3PM

DAY PARTY

DJ SOTA - 4PM - CLOSE

MON  
JUNE 26

HAPPY HOUR  
4PM - 6:30PM

TUE  
JUNE 27

HAPPY HOUR  
4PM - 6:30PM

WED  
JUNE 28

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Pictured: Jim Lichtscheidl,  
Leah Anderson and Chris Koza  
Photo by: William Clark



# CARDBOARD MELEE

*Action Sequence* is one epic cartoony fight



STEPHANIE ROGERS

BY JAY GABLER

A hero drops into the Avalon Theater, hanging from a helicopter. A bad guy gets impaled with a six-foot knife. A real live baby flies out of a bazooka. That's all in just the opening credits of *Action Sequence*, an anarchic parody being staged for summer fun by In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre.

With a 5 o'clock shadow and some gnarly chest hair, Shelby Richardson plays "Studs," a pastiche of '80s action-movie protagonists (although what passes for a plot in *Action Sequence* makes *Rambo* look like Shakespeare). Basically, the show is just an excuse to let Richardson battle her way back and forth across the theater for an hour, leaving an astonishing wake of cardboard carnage.

The ensemble-created spectacle, directed by Steve Ackerman with Lizz Windnagel, seats the audience facing sideways in the theater. You list a little to port due to the slanted floor, but that doesn't matter, because you spend almost as much time looking left, right, backward, and up as you do looking forward. Richardson and seven puppeteers use all the available space and then some.

Peter Rusk delivers hard-boiled narration from an onstage podium. When Richardson speaks, it's usually to deliver a punny groaner of a catchphrase. ("Knife to meet you!") From the back of the auditorium, a dozen musicians under the direction of Drew Kellum perform an appropriately sweeping score, except when they're covering Bob Seger's "Hollywood Nights."

The nonstop production jumps from one showpiece to the next, as Richardson

## ACTION SEQUENCE

Avalon Theater  
1500 E. Lake St., Minneapolis  
612-721-2535; through June 24

battles cartoonish baddies who pursue her via planes, trains, and automobiles. There's a long car chase that involves as many overturned fruit carts as you could possibly hope for, a face-off aboard a train that speeds around the auditorium at various scales, and a rope-bridge battle straight out of *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*.

Making all this happen requires endless invention involving cardboard models and elaborate rigging. Just when you think there can't be any more room for hidden props to drop from the ceiling, something else comes flying in. Eventually Richardson does battle with Satan himself, the dark lord towering in puppet form behind a fire-spitting minion.

The best sequence, though, is a bar fight in which Richardson takes on a bunch of children. That sounds terrible on paper, but it's all staged for laughs, and no one's having more fun than Richardson's young assailants, busting billiard cues and snarling into a camera. When Studs slides one of the lil' thugs down the bar, you know there's going to be a fruit cart waiting for the kid to smash into.

If the MPAA rated plays, *Action Sequence* would get a PG for low-grade cussing and the constant wreaking of virtual havoc. Middle elementary kids will love it, and they'll be super jealous of the boy who gets to have a beer bottle shattered on his head. **C**

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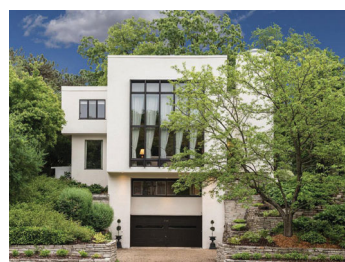
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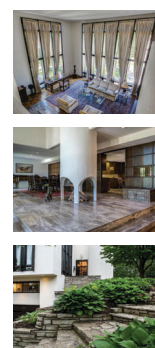
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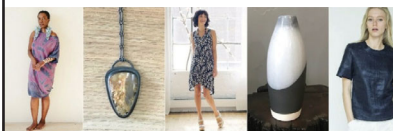
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## IDEE UDO

23, JUNIOR STRATEGIC PLANNER

### What are you wearing?

A shirt from my mom's closet, sandals from Target.

### Describe your style:

Simple and ever-changing.

### Where do you get your style ideas and inspiration?

Street style blogs and my co-workers.

### What is your favorite item of clothing?

My vintage jean jacket—classic and effortless.



## KARINA ELZE

32, KINDERGARTEN TEACHER

### What are you wearing?

Bag from Desigual, shorts from Express, and Converse shoes.

### Describe your style:

Comfort comes first, and free-spirited.

### Where do you get your style ideas and inspiration?

I come up with ideas depending on the weather, because in Minnesota you always have to check the weather before going outside.

### What is your favorite item of clothing?

My shoes. I love my Converse!



## ZEPHYR SEBWE

6, STUDENT

### What are you wearing?

Visor by Under Armour, T-shirt by H&M, twill biker jacket by Crazy 8, knit jogger jeans by Kind is Cool, high tops by OSIRIS.

### Describe your style:

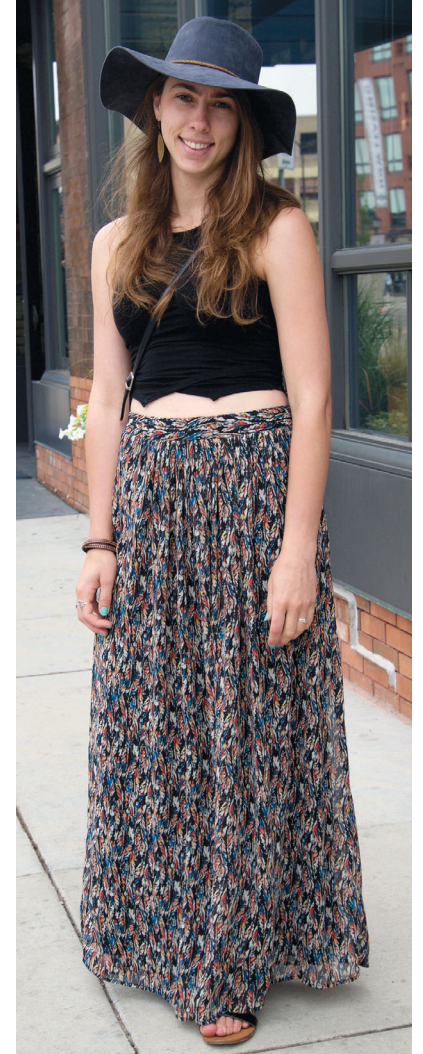
B-boy funky hip-hop style.

### Where do you get your style ideas and inspiration?

I like to break and skate and rap and put it together old-school.

### What is your favorite item of clothing?

High tops. I've got like 100.



## KATHRYN FULLER

28, BEHAVIORAL THERAPIST

### What are you wearing?

Thrifty clothes and hat. The jewelry is from Regla de Oro, a fair trade gift vendor in Minneapolis.

### Describe your style:

Comfortable.

### Where do you get your style ideas and inspiration?

From the people I see and meet.

### What is your favorite item of clothing?

Anything that keeps me warm in the Minnesota winters.



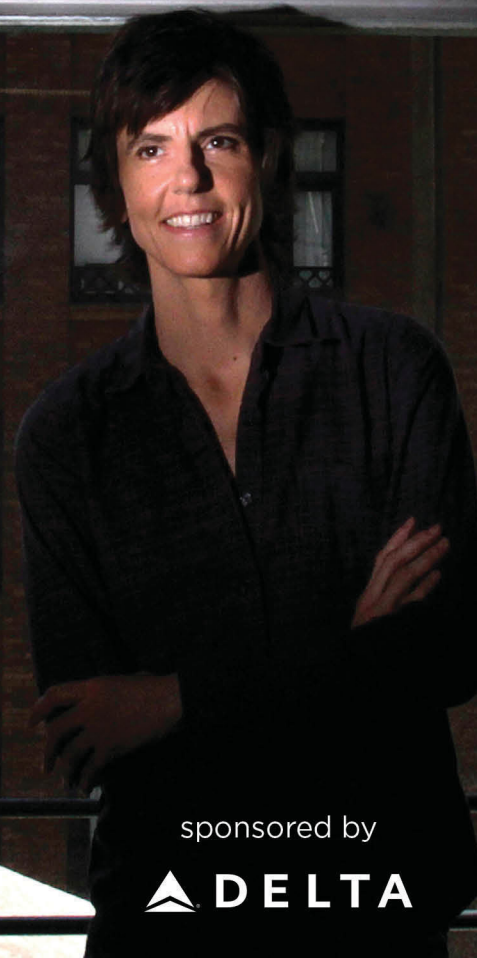
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*Pride Event Listings on Page 47*

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JULY 21-23

## 20/20

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<b>THURSDAY 7/20</b> <b>4pm</b> Pride Kick-off Visit Website for Location <b>FRIDAY 7/21</b> <b>6pm</b> Youth Prom at Rochester Library <b>8pm</b> The Rochester Girls Inc. Presents: Dragagonza at Rochester International Event Center Save \$2 with Pridefest Button	<b>SATURDAY 7/22</b> <b>10am</b> 20th Annual Pridefest at Soldiers Field Park <b>6pm</b> Pride Block Party - Live Music <b>SUNDAY 7/23</b> <b>10am</b> Community Church Service at Soldiers Field Park <b>11am</b> Pride Closing Ceremony with Games, food & Various Local Artists
--	---

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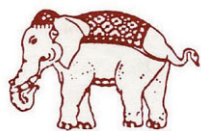
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## PRIDE EVENTS

### BOOBYTRAP PRIDE 2017

Featuring Dbaz and DJ DMil, BoobyTrap Girlz, Emily Elise Aldrich, and Dizzy Fae. June 23, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$10-\$25. Muse Event Center, 107 3rd Ave. N., Minneapolis; 952-562-5620.

### GRRRL SCOUT: SUMMER CAMP PRIDE 2017

Featuring live performance by Holidae, DJs, guest performances, burlesque, drag, Troop 612 with Mona Lisa, games, raffles, food and drinks. June 24, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$14. Cabooze, 917 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-338-6425.

### LEMONADE MPLS PRIDE KICKOFF PARTY

Featuring music by Dbaz and drink specials. June 22, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. \$7. Union Restaurant & Rooftop, 731 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-455-6690.

### MATTEO LANE PRIDE COMEDY SHOW

With Jakey Emmert and Grace Thomas. June 23, 7:30 p.m. \$15. Sisyphus Brewing, 712 Ontario Avenue W., Minneapolis; 612-321-8324.

### PLANET GLITTER

With Beyonce Basement and Aja, DJ Fancy Restaurant, and pop-up drag performances. June 23, 9 p.m. \$10-\$18. Union Restaurant & Rooftop, 731 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-455-6690.

### PRIDE DANCE

Featuring DJ Brian Engel. Tickets and more info at eventbrite.com. June 24, 8 p.m. \$25-\$30; \$15 members. The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, 410 Oak Grove St., Minneapolis; 612-813-5300.

### PRIDE FAMILY LOUNGE

Featuring art activities, free cookies, drag queen storytime, rainbow reading rug. June 25, 12-4 p.m. Free. Lakes & Legends Brewing Company, 1368 LaSalle Ave, Minneapolis; 612-999-6020.

### PRIDE NIGHT WITH THE ST. PAUL SAINTS

Fundraiser for Twin Cities Pride, featuring discounted tickets (use password TCPride17). June 23, 7:05 p.m. \$21. CHS Field, 360 N. Broadway St., St. Paul; 651-266-6400.

### PRIDE IN CONCERT 2017: EN VOGUE

With Rebel Queens, Brian Justin Crum, and Luciana. June 24, 6-10 p.m. \$10-\$79. Loring Park, 1382 Willow St., Minneapolis.

### PUPS PATIO PARTY BEER BUST

Dog-friendly PRIDE celebration, featuring raffles, giveaways, and beer and soda bust. June 21, 5-9 p.m. \$10. Lush Food Bar, 990 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-208-0358.

### QDP DELUXE BENEFITING TRANS ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Fundraiser featuring DJ Beefcakes and DJ Mother T Rosa, with photobooth, and artwork by Jared Maire and Maddelyn. June 23, 9 p.m. \$5-\$10 suggested donation. Seward Community Cafe, 2129 Franklin Ave. E., Minneapolis; 612-332-1011.

### QUEER VOICES: PRIDE READING

Showcase of all the readers from the 2016-17 season, curated by Andrea Jenkins and John Medeiros, with a book fair starting at 5:30 p.m. June 27, 6:30 p.m. \$5-\$25 suggested donation. Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 952-847-8107.

### RED BULL SOUND SELECT

Featuring Big Freedia, Cupcakke, and Lex Allen. RSVP at redbullsoundselect.com. June 21, 8 p.m. \$5 w/RSVP; \$15 without. Cabooze, 917 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-338-6425.

### TERRACE THURSDAYS: TOTAL PRIDE

Cabaret featuring live music, pop-up dance performances, drag, and more. June 22, 5 p.m. Free. Walker Art Center, 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis; 612-375-7600.

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# THE BIG TAKEOVER

Taylor J has worked with some of hip-hop's biggest names. Now he's finally ready to release his debut album.

BY MICHAEL MADDEN

It's Friday after midnight, and the West Bank's century-old Viking Bar is packed. Around 100 rap fans are gathered for the Young N Reckless hip-hop showcase, organized by Tavey Shaw-Martin, who runs the local blog Motivation to Hustle. We've already seen an eclectic group of Twin Cities MCs, including promising young lyricist Juice Lord and blunt street rapper Dubb P. Up now is the headliner, St. Paul's Taylor J, wearing a red hoodie emblazoned with his catchphrase and signature adlib, "Takeeeeoovveerrr"—with exactly that many e's, o's, v's, and r's.

Taylor is the night's most comfortable, fluid performer, the event's most accomplished artist. He's released around a dozen mixtapes and EPs, worked out of three different states, and collaborated with a range of performers that includes trap-rap lord Gucci Mane, snarly L.A. vet Nipsey Hussle, and Next singer and Minneapolis native RL. And yet, the release of Taylor's first proper studio album, *Who Would've Thought*, is still 48 hours away. For now, he's *Coolin Till My Album Drop*, to borrow the title of a new appetizer EP with remixes of tracks by hot MCs Kodak Black and Playboi Carti.

On the phone two nights later, Taylor sounds confident about the buildup to the album set to drop the next day, which is also his 26th birthday. "We got so many people in tune, compared to other projects," he says. There may be lots of ways artists can get their music out these days, but still, nothing keeps fans listening like the release of an old-fashioned, full-length album.

"Originally, *Who Would've Thought* was gonna be a mixtape," Taylor says. "I was just working on another mixtape. I was just working on music. I had this goal in my head of doing a certain amount of projects this year, like once every quarter. As I started working on it, hearing the music that was coming out during the recording process, it was making me feel like it was going to be a bigger moment. I just started realizing I was at a bigger point in my career."

Taylor has been working on that career

since he was fresh out of Como Park High School eight years ago. "I was always trying to get the music shit going," he says. He moved to Las Vegas in 2009, where he says he learned a lot about life.

But Taylor wanted to be at the center of the rap world, and Vegas ain't it. Atlanta—not NYC, not Chicago, not L.A.—is now the genre's capital city, producing more stars, influential styles, and opportunities for artists than anywhere else, so that's where Taylor headed in 2012. Immediately, he faced challenges.

"As soon as I got there, everything went downhill terribly," he remembers. His car overheated and broke down. Later, he was kicked out of his apartment. "We had nowhere to go, no vehicle, no money, no nothing. That was a key point, just learning how to survive." He was "getting conditioned for bullshit," he says, which has helped him ever since.

Things eventually started looking up, and about six months later, Taylor signed with Big Play Entertainment. "My time at that label is when I learned a lot of shit, too," Taylor says. "That's when I made a lot of connections, meeting other artists, promoters, producers, DJs—connecting the dots. That changed everything. I went from not knowing how I'm going to live in Atlanta to doing real good in the city."

He returned to Minnesota in 2014 as his contract with Big Play was ending, and the following year he released a mixtape, *1991*, and an EP, *Central Ave*, on his own label, Scenius Entertainment. But Taylor's 2016 would be even more fruitful.

He started working on new music with producer Lex Luger, the onetime teenage prodigy and architect of the bruising, influential trap sound of releases like Waka Flocka Flame's 2010 street classic *Flockaveli* who went on to produce hits by Jay Z,

Kanye, and Rick Ross. Taylor's first project with Lex, last December's *The 91 Family*, was an eight-song EP that racked up 4,500 downloads on DatPiff.

"When I work with Lex, I feel like I'm working with a professional," he says. "Lex got that experience of doing things on a professional level. It makes me work harder. When you work with someone on a particular level, you gotta meet them halfway."

*The 91 Family Pt. 2* is in the works. Lex has shared his excitement about the project with his 300,000 Twitter followers, and Taylor agrees that it's going to be stronger than the first installment. "The music's bigger, the sound's bigger," he says. "We have something to build off from part one. There's a stronger connection because this ain't the first time we've worked together."

Taylor has previously released full-length mixtapes that were of album quality, but *Who Would've Thought* is more cohesive than even the best of those projects. There are no Lex beats on the album. Instead, Kentucky duo Ric & Thadeus, L.A.'s Red Drum Beatz, and Taylor's day-one friend and fellow St. Paul native Kush2x handle most of the production. Their instrumentals tend to be chilled and vaporous in a way Lex's beats aren't, though they're still hard-hitting. And Taylor is telling his story more memorably than ever. His knack for effortlessly melodic flows is evident everywhere, and some moments are particularly lyrical and introspective. "Impossible," where he recounts meeting Andre 3000 and other experiences he had in Atlanta, is one of the album's more personal songs, and one of the most affecting.

The cover art for *Who Would've Thought* is a grainy old photo of Taylor on Christmas morning at his grandma's house, wearing pro-wrestling fan gear and clutching a mock championship belt. "One day, my dad had posted the picture on Facebook randomly," he says. "I had the concept in my head for the artwork—I was going to use an old picture of myself. I wanted that stage of my life to look like it didn't add up to where I am today."

Though his music career isn't something anyone predicted for Taylor at that time, the work he's put in since then has made his present-day takeover inevitable. **Q**



Taylor J

CHRISTIAN SHARP



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ANNA WEBBER

## CHRISTIAN SANDS TRIO

DAKOTA, WEDNESDAY 6.21

Pianist Christian Sands, still flying a bit under the radar at age 27, appears poised to grab the spotlight with his fine new album, *Reach*. A protégée of Dr. Billy Taylor, Sands has had notable stints with Los Hombres Calientes, Bobby Sanabria's Afro-Cuban band, and bassist Christian McBride, who co-produced *Reach*. Sands leads his core trio (bassist Yasushi Nakamura, drummer Marcus Baylor—replaced on tour by Jerome Jennings) through an eclectic set of striking originals and two curious covers. Bill Withers' "Use Me" gets a melting-blues treatment, featuring a dazzling guitar sprint from guest Gilad Hekselman and a Sands gospel-bop reverie, and the trio reimagines the Linda Ronstadt-James Ingram duet "Somewhere Out There" as a melodically rich but restless jazz ballad. Sands' tributes to Chick Corea and Bud Powell sport intricate twists, and though the funk/hip-hop groove of "Gangstalude" is rather generic, its floating piano-guitar revelations are pure bliss, as is the sizzling Afro-Cuban workout "¡Óyeme!" \$20. 7 p.m. 1010 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-5299. —RICK MASON

## BIG BUSINESS

TRIPLE ROCK SOCIAL CLUB, THURSDAY 6.22

Though their music is often burly and on the slower side of things, the mighty Los Angeles-via-Seattle band Big Business are reluctant to concede that they make "sludge" or "stoner" metal. Founded by singer/bassist Jared Warren and drummer Coady Willis, who have also been members of the Melvins since 2006, they feel their musicianship is more varied than it's given credit for. It's easy to see where they're coming from: Over the past decade and change, they've been equally apt to

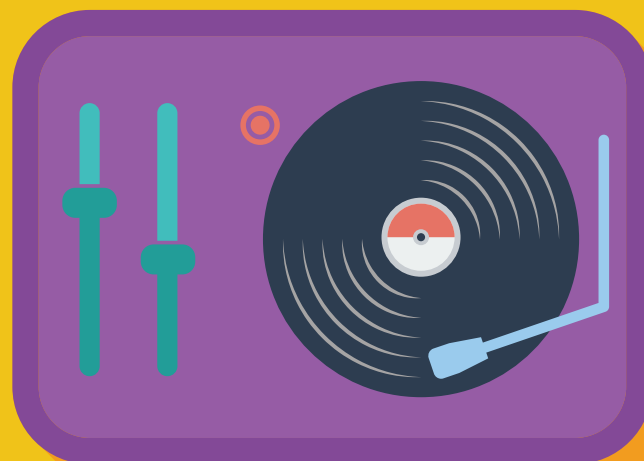
deliver their sound in three-minute blasts and stretch out for true epics that clock in at seven-plus minutes. And with help from producers Phil Ek and Dave Curran, they've also quickened their tempos, indulged their proggy impulses, and let vocal harmonies fly. Similar bands like Baroness may be more popular, but Big Business has cultivated reputation as a consistently thrilling force in underground metal, reliably issuing a great-to-excellent new LP every two or three years. With Gay Witch Abortion and Buildings. 18+. 8 p.m. \$13-\$15. 629 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-333-7399. —MICHAEL MADDEN

## FREDDIE GIBBS

FINE LINE MUSIC CAFE, FRIDAY 6.23

As lyrical as he is gangster, Gary, Indiana's Freddie Gibbs is one of the most beloved contemporary rappers without a Hot 100 hit, his sizable fan base admiring him for his street storytelling and technical abilities as an MC. Gibbs first made his name with a run of mixtapes in the mid- and late 2000s before finally releasing his debut album, *ESGN*, in 2013. The following year he and eccentric producer Madlib put out the psychedelic and funky *Piñata*, one of the decade's best underground rap LPs. Gibbs followed it up with 2015's varied *Shadow of a Doubt*, and earlier this year issued *You Only Live Twice*, his first project since he was acquitted of sexual assault charges and released after four months in prison in Europe. As a result of his artistic resurrection, *You Only Live Twice* is filled with some of Gibbs' most inspired and detailed writing ever, particularly on lead single "Crushed Glass," where he describes his overseas incarceration as an almost traumatizing experience. With Jon Connor and Mac Irv. 18+. 9 p.m. \$20-\$35. 318 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8100. —MICHAEL MADDEN

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<b>Thu-Sun June 22-25</b>	<b>IN THE ANNEX</b> <b>LADIES OF LAFEMME</b>	<b>Sun June 25</b> <b>GLAM BOYLESQUE</b> 8:30-10PM

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10pm : emot, maple & beech,  
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MIKE SHORE

## ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

MINNESOTA ZOO, SUNDAY 6.25

Ray Benson has been at the helm of Asleep at the Wheel (and mostly alert) for nigh on a half-century, spreading the Western swing gospel of Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys. Since the 1970s, when the band often regaled the faithful from the stage of Austin's Armadillo World Headquarters, Benson and a frequently evolving lineup (now having run through upward of 80 musicians) have kept alive the Western swing tradition—a dancehall fusion of jazz, jump blues, country, and folk—with a mix of humor, superb musicianship, and outstanding showmanship. 2015's *Still the King*, AATW's third specific tribute to Wills, is a characteristically rollicking jaunt through WS nuggets, its multi-generational guest list ranging from original Playboy Leon Rausch to the Avett Brothers. Hardcore country traditionalist Dale Watson opens, and he and Benson are sure to run through tunes from their January collaboration *Dale & Ray*, a thoroughly engaging Texas charmer with tributes to Merle Haggard and Buck Owens. \$40. 7:30 p.m. 13000 Zoo Blvd., Apple Valley; 952-431-9200.—**RICK MASON**

## KING CRIMSON

STATE THEATRE, MONDAY 6.26

The venerable prog-rock band King Crimson has been pronounced dead numerous times over the past five decades, only to stagger back into action, typically in prime form, after a Frankensteinian jolt from founder Robert Fripp. Fripp's guitar work pushes classical technique to the fringes of experimental rock, and as KC's presiding monarch since its groundbreaking 1969 debut, *In the Court of the Crimson King*, he's seen waves of musicians pass through the band. The current lineup, which he calls a double

quartet, features three drummers plus additional personnel drawn from various KC incarnations: bassist Tony Levin, saxophonist Mel Collins, vocalist Jakko Jakszyk, and multi-instrumentalist Bill Reiflin. Crimson has issued a series of live sets in recent years, including 2016's massive *Radical Action to Unseat the Hold of Monkey Mind*, and this month the band released *Heroes—Live In Europe, 2016*, an EP featuring the David Bowie classic, which Fripp played guitar on in 1977, proving court is definitely back in session. \$39.50-\$129.50. 7:30 p.m. 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-339-7007.—**RICK MASON**

## (SANDY) ALEX G

7TH ST. ENTRY, TUESDAY 6.27

(Sandy) Alex G, the Philly singer-songwriter formerly known as just Alex G, is a unique product of the 2010s. He first developed a cultish YouTube and Bandcamp following, then grew that fan base with acoustic songs reminiscent of Elliott Smith, though with a weirder, more experimental side to him that signing with the famed indie label Domino in 2015 hasn't diminished. Last year, he found a new audience after adding guitar and arrangements to two songs on Frank Ocean's *Blonde*, "Self Control" and "White Ferrari." And this spring he returned with *Rocket*, a kitchen-sink affair that ranges from lo-fi hardcore punk to banjo-picking alt-country, though his Smith influence can still be heard on a straightforward earworm like "Proud." If it's not exactly the most cohesive album, that's kind of the point — while he's proven he can write a concise indie-pop gem, Alex's defining quality may be his boundless imagination. With Japanese Breakfast and Cendé. 18+. 7 p.m. \$14-\$17. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.—**MICHAEL MADDEN**

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## SAVAGE LOVE

# Sneakers

I hate being the other woman but I can't stop

**I** am a 34-year-old straight woman. I'm monogamous and have an avoidant attachment style. I've been seeing a guy I really like. He's just my type, the kind of person I've been looking for my whole life. Thing is, he's in an open relationship with someone he's been with for most of his adult life. He was sneaky—he didn't reveal he was in an open relationship until the second date, but by then I was infatuated and felt like I wasn't in control of my actions. So what I've learned is that poly couples often seek out others to create NRE or "new relationship energy," which may help save their relationship in the long run. I was deeply hurt to learn about NRE. What about the people who are dragged into a situation by some charmer in an attempt to breathe new life into a stale relationship? How can I reconcile the fact that I've fallen for someone who sees me as a tool to be discarded once the excitement wears off? I know we all have a choice, but we also know what it's like to be infatuated by someone who seems perfect. I feel like such a loser.

SOBBING HERE AND MAKING ERRORS

**"One of life's** hardest lessons is this: Two people can be absolutely crazy in love with each other and still not be good partners," said Franklin Veaux, coauthor of *More Than Two: A Practical Guide to Ethical Polyamory*. "The best thing to do is acknowledge that you're incompatible and go your separate ways. It hurts and it sucks, but there it is." This perfect, sneaky guy who makes you feel like a loser and a hussy? He told you he was in an open relationship on your second date. You knew he wasn't "your type" or "perfect" for you, and you needed to go your separate ways at that point. And I'm not buying your excuse ("I was too infatuated!"). What if he had revealed that he was a recreational bed wetter? Or a serial killer? Or Jeffrey Lord? Or all of the above? Surely you would've dumped him then.

Veaux advocates ethical polyamory—it's right there in the title of his book—and he thinks this guy did you wrong by not disclosing his partner's existence right away. "Making a nonmonogamous relationship work requires a commitment to

communication, honesty, and transparency," said Veaux. "Concealing the fact that you're in a relationship is a big violation of all three."

I have a slightly different take. Straight women in open relationships have an easier time finding men willing to fuck and/or date them; their straight male counterparts have a much more difficult time. Stigma and double standards are at work here and waiting to disclose the fact that you're poly (or kinky or HIV-positive or a cammer) is a reaction

to/work-around for that. It's also a violation of poly best practices, like Veaux says, but the stigma is a violation, too. Waiting to disclose your partner, kink, HIV status, etc., can prompt the other person to weigh their assumptions and prejudices against the living, breathing person they've come to know. Still, disclosure needs to come within a date or two, so the other person

can bail if poly/kinky/poz is a deal-breaker.

As for that new relationship energy stuff...

"There are, in truth, polyamorous people who are NRE junkies," said Veaux. "Men and women who chase new relationships in pursuit of that emotional fix. They're not very common, but they do exist, and alas they tend to leave a lot of destruction in their wake."

But your assumptions about how NRE works are wrong, SHAME. Seeing your partner in the throes of NRE doesn't bring the primary couple closer together; it often places a strain on the relationship. It's something a poly person experiences with a new partner, not something a poly person enjoys with an established one.

I'll give the final word to our guest expert...

"Having an avoidant attachment style complicates things, because one of the things that can go along with avoidant attachment is idealizing partners who are inaccessible or unavailable," said Veaux. "That can make it harder to let go. But if you're radically incompatible with the person you love, letting go is likely your only healthy choice. Good luck!"

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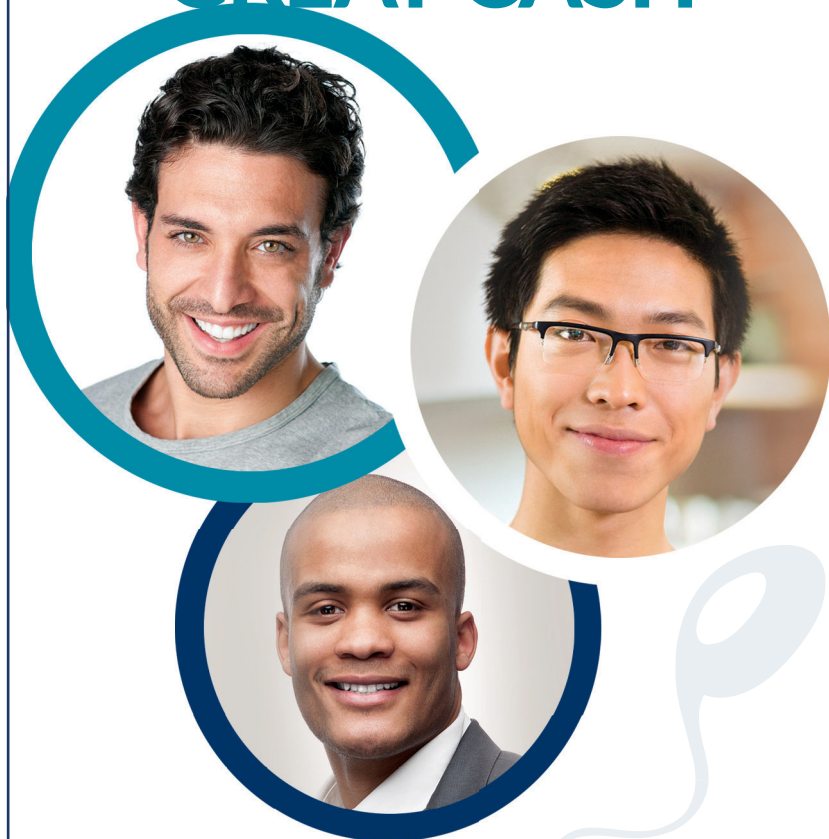
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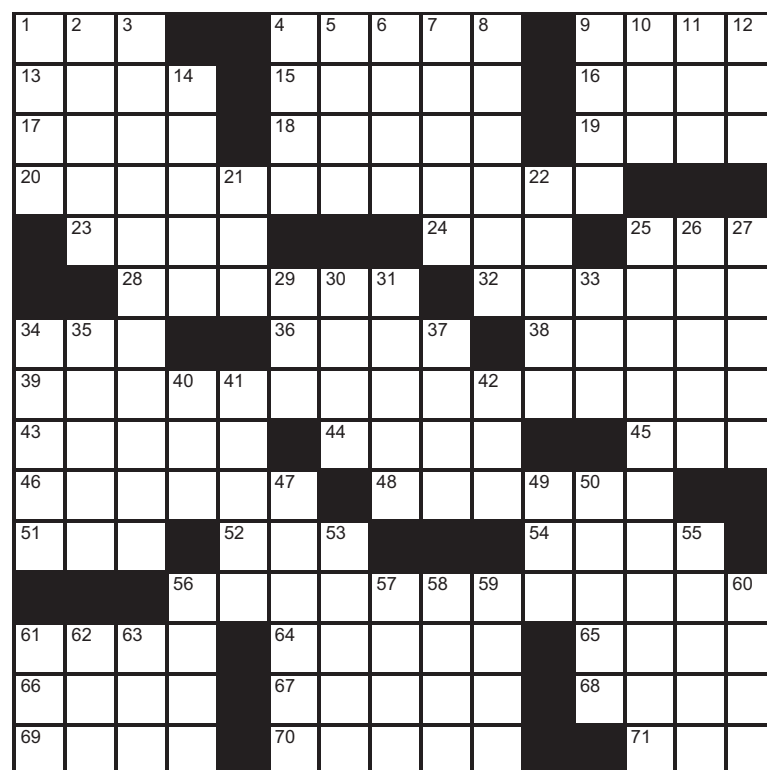
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#### Across

1. Fall back from the beach
4. The mark "v" in string music
9. Trapper's catch
13. Shakespearean lament
15. Gas-X alternative
16. Role that Peter Fonda combed over
17. Young zebra
18. Become a contestant
19. Heavy base supporting a statue
20. Smug
23. Like students that still have naptime
24. Megan Boone's "The Blacklist" role
25. They're sometimes blocked online
28. "I Am the Walrus" persona
32. Knuckle to the head
34. Crunchy sandwich, for short
36. Sweet froyo topping
38. New, in Nicaragua
39. Expression of great approval, on-line
43. Gruesome
44. Sax object?
45. Cam Newton stat
46. Winking phrase
48. Massive impasse
51. Actor Bentley of "American Horror Story"
52. Concealed carry lobby
54. Gulf of Mexico, to many
56. Cold pressor

#### test measurements

61. Golf's Aoki
64. BYU's location
65. Dog that appears to be 20% tongue
66. Funeral flames
67. Concentrated beam
68. \_\_\_\_ Crossing
69. Key song?
70. Make, as an effort
71. Pre-barbecue application

#### Down

1. Per unit
2. Soft fly
3. They're found in between alleys
4. Company with a "Become a Driver" section on its website
5. Bottled (up)
6. Muddy spa treatment
7. "Inside The NBA" analyst
8. Weakened from overuse
9. \_\_\_\_ platter (Chinese appetizer)
10. Right-angled annex
11. Wreath in Waipahu
12. Tithing amount
14. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" author Larsson
21. Cardiologist's machine
22. Layer with a hole
25. Sci-fi character who wants to believe
26. Flopped, likely
27. Theater count
29. May, say

30. Concentration focus
31. "Jurassic Park" costar
33. Common pronoun
34. Legally
35. Sitcom starring a comic with an identical-sounding first name
37. Well aware of
40. Humor
41. Singer Menzel
42. Get dressed, with "up"
47. Baseball rarity
49. God of reggae
50. Put in \_\_\_\_ word for
53. One of thrash metal's Big Four
55. Affected goodbye
56. Valentine's text
57. Valentine's gift
58. For all time
59. Work with mail
60. Hungarian's neighbor
61. Hoppy brewpub selection
62. Moog product
63. Be another way?

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